

Appl. No.: (not yet assigned)

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/00202)

Preliminary Amdt. Dated July 7, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A stapler, comprising:
a clincher unit ~~having~~ comprising a clincher for clinching legs of a staple driven out by a driver and a holder which holds the clincher,
said holder being formed with guide surfaces which are slanted for guiding tips of the legs of said staple toward the clincher, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein
said holder is movable with respect to the clincher unit.
2. (Currently Amended) The stapler according to claim 1, further comprising a driver unit ~~having~~ comprising said driver, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the driver unit and said clincher unit are vertically separated from each other.
3. (Currently Amended) The stapler according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said clincher has a pair of clincher members disposed ~~rotatable~~ rotatably relative to said holder, and ~~in such a manner~~ disposed so that positions of their rotating surfaces are deviated from each other, and a partition plate is disposed between the clincher members.

4. (Currently Amended) The stapler according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3,~~
~~characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein

said clincher unit ~~has~~ comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is opened, and

said holder is disposed ~~movable~~ movably in the clincher unit box, and

biasing members are disposed between ~~an one-side~~ a first wall of the holder and ~~an one-side~~ a first wall of the clincher unit box opposing ~~the one-side~~ said first wall of the holder, and between ~~an another wall~~ a second wall of the holder and ~~an another wall~~ a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing ~~the another wall~~ said second wall of the holder,

to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

5. (Currently Amended) The stapler according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said biasing members are wave springs.

6. (New) The stapler according to claim 2, wherein said clincher has a pair of clincher members disposed rotatably relative to said holder, and disposed so that positions of their rotating surfaces are deviated from each other, and a partition plate is disposed between the clincher members.

7. (New) The stapler according to claim 2, wherein
said clincher unit comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is opened, and

said holder is disposed movably in the clincher unit box, and

biasing members are disposed between a first wall of the holder and a first wall of the clincher unit box opposing said first wall of the holder, and between a second wall of the holder and a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing said second wall of the holder,

to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

8. (New) The stapler according to claim 3, wherein
said clincher unit comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is
opened, and
said holder is disposed movably in the clincher unit box, and
biasing members are disposed between a first wall of the holder and a first wall of the
clinch unit box opposing said first wall of the holder, and between a second wall of the holder
and a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing said second wall of the holder,
to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

9. (New) The stapler according to claim 6, wherein
said clincher unit comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is
opened, and
said holder is disposed movably in the clincher unit box, and
biasing members are disposed between a first wall of the holder and a first wall of the
clinch unit box opposing said first wall of the holder, and between a second wall of the holder
and a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing said second wall of the holder,
to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

10. (New) The stapler according to claim 7, wherein said biasing members
are wave springs.

11. (New) The stapler according to claim 8, wherein said biasing members
are wave springs.

12. (New) The stapler according to claim 9, wherein said biasing members
are wave springs.